

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

May/June 2001

Innovative agreement will cut pollution and save Groveton company \$825,000

DES and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced an innovative agreement to cut air pollution and save \$825,000 at Groveton Paper Board Inc. in Groveton. Under the agreement, the company will install alternative pollution controls at its paper mill that will reduce air pollution four times more than controls normally required by federal law.

The agreement is the first in New England developed under an expedited process for federal/state environ-

mental innovation laid out in the national EPA/State Agreement to Pursue Regulatory Innovation.

Under federal rules effective in April 2002, Groveton would have been required to install a \$1 million system to capture and incinerate emissions of airborne methanol. Working cooperatively with DES, the company realized that because of the unique characteristics of the plant, it could achieve significantly more pollution reduction by treating process water at

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Under a unique federal/state agreement, Groveton Paper Board, Inc., will be treating its process water to remove methanol. This will not only reduce methanol emissions by four times, but it will also reduce other air pollutants by 20 tons per year.

Gov. Shaheen issues executive order on MtBE

In mid-April, Gov. Jeanne Shaheen issued an executive order directing DES to work aggressively to free New Hampshire from federal rules requiring that the additive MtBE be used in gasoline sold in the state. In addition, in a letter, she informed Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christine Todd Whitman of her decision to seek the immediate withdrawal of New Hampshire from the federal Reformulated Gasoline Program, which requires the use of MtBE.

"There is an abundance of evidence that MtBE poses a serious risk to our groundwater here in New Hampshire and across the Northeast. Clean water and clean air are both critical to our quality of life and the health of our residents. We can not sacrifice one for the sake of the other," Gov. Shaheen said. "Because the federal Clean Air Act and its associated regulations provide states with virtually no authority to reduce MtBE in gasoline, states are essentially compelled to contaminate their precious water resources. This is an unacceptable solution.

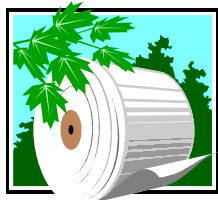
"As a result, I am forced to take steps to remove New Hampshire

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GROVETON

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the plant to remove methanol. This alternative treatment will result in four times the methanol emissions reductions—a reduction of an estimated 42 tons per year, versus 11 tons from incineration. Additionally, it will reduce other hazardous air pollutants by 20 tons per year. At the same time, the process water treatment technology costs \$175,000, a savings of \$825,000 from the incineration requirement.



“This is a remarkable success story, which saves Groveton Paper Board an incredible 80 percent of its initially-expected costs, and demonstrates once again that the interests of environmental protection and economic growth can go hand-in-hand,” said DES Commissioner Robert Varney. “This project illustrates how cost-effective pollution prevention can be, an approach that we hope will be emulated by other companies throughout the region.”

“This agreement is the result of the collaborative efforts of Groveton Paper Board, DES and EPA,” said Thomas Pitts, resident manager at Groveton Paper Board. “DES worked shoulder to shoulder with us to find an innovative and cost-effective approach to reduce our emissions. They went beyond simply enforcing rules; they helped us solve the problem. We are also pleased with the quick response of the EPA. We can now begin to implement our plan and reduce emissions sooner.”

Under the agreement, the state will issue an alternative air permit to Groveton Paper Board, specifying a timeline for completion of the alternative controls. The permit is expected to be finalized this summer. ■

MtBE

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from the Reformulated Gasoline Program (RFG). I am taking this action because it represents the only rational, and legal, approach available to the State at this time to sharply reduce the levels of MtBE in gasoline supplied to New Hampshire,” Gov. Shaheen said.

MtBE, a gasoline additive originally intended to reduce air pollution, has been found to pose unacceptable risks to drinking water supplies. In testing mandated by legislation approved by Gov. Shaheen, the Department of Environmental Services found that 16 percent of New Hampshire’s public water supplies, and 27 percent of private wells analyzed, have some level of MtBE. MtBE is highly soluble and moves quickly in groundwater; even a small spill can result in widespread water contamination. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency considers MtBE a potential human carcinogen.

The federal government mandates that additives such as MtBE be used in the federal RFG program. Current EPA regulations do not allow states to opt out of the program until Jan. 1, 2004. As part of her executive order, Gov. Shaheen is pushing the EPA to change its rules so New Hampshire can leave the program earlier.

Despite the efforts of some states to ban MtBE, the federal Clean Air Act does not allow states to alter federal fuel specifications. New York’s attempt to ban MtBE, for example, is being challenged in court.

The Executive Order directs the Department of Environmental Services:

- To submit all necessary information to the EPA for opting out of the federal Reformulated Gasoline Program.



Gov. Shaheen

- To work with the legislature to enact any legislation necessary to accommodate New Hampshire leaving the federal RFG program, and to increase funding for cleaning up MtBE.
- To continue working to develop regional and/or federal solutions to the problem.
- To provide information to the Governor and Legislature about the pros and cons of any possible substitutes for MtBE.
- To follow the outcome of MTBE-related litigation and advise the Governor on appropriate steps depending on the outcome of these cases.
- To work with the federal government to pursue federal funding for cleaning up MTBE. ■

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



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DES receives two U.S. EPA Environmental Merit Awards

At an Earth Week ceremony held at Faneuil Hall in Boston, two State of New Hampshire programs each received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's coveted Environmental Merit Award. One award went to the New Hampshire Mercury Reduction Initiative, while the other commended the New Hampshire Clean Marine Initiative, a program designed to reduce pollution from motorboat outboard engines. Both initiatives are administered by DES.



"We're very honored to have received these EPA accolades," commented DES Commissioner Robert W. Varney. "They illustrate the substantial benefits that can be accomplished through cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors. They also give well deserved credit to the tireless efforts made by many people dedicated to ensuring the fine quality of New Hampshire's environment."

Varney explained that mercury reduction has been a New Hampshire priority for a number of years. "As far back as the early 1990s, our state placed controls on mercury batteries and toxics in packaging. Then, in 1998, with Governor Jeanne Shaheen's announcement of the *New Hampshire Mercury Reduction Strategy*, the initiative gained full momentum."

Developed and coordinated by DES, the *Strategy* contains forty recommendations to reduce New Hampshire's sources of mercury, with a 50 percent reduction goal by 2003. "To date," said Varney, "a variety of reductions have already led to a 37 percent reduction, well on its way to outpacing the targets. Ultimately, the *Strategy's* goals are to virtually eliminate all mercury discharges in our state."

The Commissioner said that the successes so far include establishing emission limits from large municipal waste combustors and medical waste incinerators, far exceeding the federal limits. Also, last year the New Hampshire Legislature passed the first-in-the-nation statewide ban on the sale of mercury fever thermometers, a ban on the use of mercury devices in schools, and a ban on the sale of certain mercury-added items. Moreover, outreach efforts and partnerships with New Hampshire hospitals and the state's dental community have further served to reduce this toxic metal.

In providing background information for its Merit Award for the New Hampshire Clean Marine Initiative, EPA noted that beginning in 2006 it is requiring that all new outboard engines and personal watercraft sold in the U.S. must be the new, low pollution models. EPA explained that the

older two-stroke engines release significant amounts of air pollution, as well as oil and fuel into the water.

"We wanted to accelerate the sale of the new technology engines here in New Hampshire, blessed as it is with so many high quality lakes and rivers," said Commissioner Varney. "Quite simply, we didn't want to wait until 2006."

He explained that DES and the N.H. Marine Trades Association, which also shared in the EPA Merit Award, signed an agreement last year whereby the signatory marine dealers agreed to voluntarily promote the increased sales of

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Jim Ballentine wins DES Rewards & Recognition Award

The logistics of implementing an evacuation plan for a large office building can be complex, especially for a building like the one at 6 Hazen Drive. Yet thanks to his "tireless efforts as DES's volunteer coordinator of the Building Evacuation Safety Team," Jim Ballentine was recently presented DES's Rewards & Recognition Award.

Employed as an enforcement paralegal at DES and also serving as the agency's clerk of appeals, Jim brings an extensive background and training in the area of personnel security to his volunteer building safety role. Three different state departments, with nearly 1,000 employees, are housed at DES's Hazen Drive building, and Jim works closely with each.

The prospect of evacuating such a large number of people due to a possible fire or other emergency can be daunting. But the Safety Team, under Jim's leadership, knows that a well written, effectively implemented plan can go a long way toward ensuring that such an evacuation can be done safely and efficiently.

Again, appreciation is extended to Jim for his conscientious volunteer efforts. ■



Commissioner Robert Varney (left) presents Jim Ballentine with DES's quarterly Rewards & Recognition Award.

Six communities apply for grants under new program

The Water Supply Land Conservation Grant Program, signed into law by Governor Shaheen last June, makes DES grants available to municipal and non-profit water suppliers for the purchase of land or conservation easements critical to protecting their sources of drinking water. Six communities successfully met the application deadline of January 1, 2001.

According to DES program manager Sherry Godlewski, the communities of Barrington, Epping, Nashua, North Hampton, Portsmouth, and Raymond will receive the grant amounts they requested. She noted that there are still some program requirements they need to complete, including appraisals, surveys, and stewardship plans, to receive their grant award.

"This is a great opportunity to leverage community support for protecting critical water supply lands," said Godlewski. "We are excited to see this program move forward."

For applicants to be considered, water supply lands must be within the source water protection areas for existing or planned public drinking water sources. Godlewski explained that the Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for this first year of the program and that another \$1.5 million is slated for Fall 2001.

"Under the new program, state grants must be matched on a 3:1 basis from local sources. Sources of the local match can include donated land or easements that also lie within the source water protection area, public funds, transaction expenses, or private funds."

If you have project ideas and want to prepare for future grant availability, please contact Sherry Godlewski, at (603) 271-0688. ■

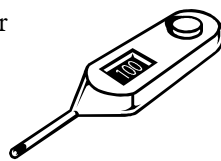
New Hampshire's airborne mercury reduced *Wheelabrator's thermometer exchange program a striking success*

A mercury thermometer exchange program conducted by Wheelabrator Technologies, Inc. has proven to be one of New Hampshire's best environmental success stories of the past year.

Last April, the company and DES announced that residents of towns served by Wheelabrator's waste-to-energy incinerators in Penacook and Claremont could avail themselves of a unique opportunity. They could bring in their mercury fever thermometers and exchange them for digital thermometers free-of-charge, with the old thermometers being shipped by Wheelabrator to a recycling center. The benefits? Reduced health risks, both in individual homes from possible breakage problems and in the environment from the elimination of potential mercury emissions from waste combustion.

Wheelabrator's Frank Ferraro noted, "Since the program began, we have received over 2,500 mercury fever thermometers, fifty on the very first day of the program! That amounts to about five pounds of mercury collected and recycled. However, we have collected and sent off for recycling over 70 pounds of elemental mercury, because people also brought in other mercury-containing items such as children's maze games, thermostats, other electrical switches, and even small bottles of elemental mercury. Without this program," notes Ferraro, "this mercury would have ended up in the trash or down the drain."

The company's voluntary efforts have played a valuable part in a broad state mercury reduction ef-



fort. Recognizing that mercury is a highly toxic metal that works its way up the food chain and has neurological impacts both

in humans and wildlife, Governor Shaheen in 1998 announced the N.H. Mercury Reduction Strategy, developed by DES and coordinated by a special advisory task force. A number of the strategy's forty recommendations have already come to pass, including passage of legislation that, among other things, banned the sale of mercury fever thermometers, the first such state to do so. Overall, these and other efforts have led to a 37 percent reduction in mercury emissions to date, with more reductions still to come.

The thermometer exchange program put in place by Wheelabrator is no small piece of this mercury reduction strategy. Along with its added collection of other mercury-containing products, the Hampton-based company's program plays a key link in a critical state-wide effort that is now paying environmental and public health dividends.

To participate in this program, residents may bring their thermometers to either Wheelabrator office, at 11 Whitney Road in Penacook (753-8411) or at Grisholm Lane in Claremont (542-8764), Monday through Friday. For more information on mercury and its reduction, call DES at 271-2902 or visit DES's web site at www.des.state.nh.us.

Wheelabrator, with the help of DES's Green team, recently held a special thermometer exchange at DES's Concord building. In this one-day Earth Week event, more than 100 thermometers were collected! ■

Two New Hampshire wastewater treatment facilities win EPA awards *Lebanon and Lisbon honored*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently honored the City of Lebanon and the Town of Lisbon for excellence in their wastewater treatment facilities. The facilities were two of seven across New England recognized by EPA New England for their commitment to improving water quality.



Lebanon received the EPA Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award, and will be considered as a nominee for a national EPA award later this year. This award was established to recognize the staff of publicly

owned wastewater treatment plants for their commitment to improving water quality. They are honored not only for outstanding and innovative operation and maintenance, but also for their continued compliance with permit requirements, effective financial management, and on-going operator training.

The town of Lisbon was honored by EPA New England as having the "most improved" wastewater treatment facility in the region. This award recognizes exceptional efforts by treatment plant personnel, local officials, and state personnel for their combined efforts to bring a facility back into compliance through improved operation and maintenance. Also, Kathleen Welch of the Lisbon WWTF was presented the New England Water Environment Association's prestigious "Wastewater Operator of the Year" award.

In addition, George Neil and Tom White of the Operations Section of DES's Wastewater Engineering Bureau were also recognized for outstanding efforts in providing technical assistance to Lisbon.

The excellence awards also help to recognize conscientious operators and staff who continue to perform exceptionally even though they may operate with limited resources, such as the smaller facilities of Lisbon and Lebanon. ■

Rudy Cartier presented with DES Exceptional Service Award

Consolidating all of DES's Concord staff under one roof was no easy task. But, due in no small measure to the skills and know-how of DES Air Resources engineer Rudy Cartier, the department's move was successfully accomplished.

For the past decade, since the statutory creation of DES in 1987, the

agency's Air Resources Division and its former Water Resources Division operated on Concord's Main Street, while the rest of the agency was headquartered at



6 Hazen Drive. This separation created logistical and convenience difficulties, both internally and for the public. With the recent consolidation, completed during 1999 and 2000, these difficulties are now over. The public is better able to be served, and the department can operate more efficiently.

To honor Rudy Cartier for "stepping up to the plate" and taking on the role as DES's "move coordinator," a role above and beyond his regular duties as DES's Small Business Ombudsman and air quality engineer, Commissioner Varney recently presented Rudy with the agency's Exceptional Service Award. Given "in grateful appreciation for his energy, skill, perseverance, and patience as office consolidation coordinator," the award recognized Rudy for his attention to detail, his critical decisionmaking, and his upbeat, can-do attitude. ■

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the newer, less polluting engines well before the federal requirement date of 2006. In the agreement, target sales percentages were set up, including a 50 percent sales goal by the end of 2000. The latest sales figures from the more-than-two-dozen dealers who signed the agreement indicate that the targets have been exceeded.

Varney added that the Clean Marine Initiative includes an active public outreach program that is benefiting the quality of New Hampshire's air and water resources. "Again, many people, both here at DES and throughout New Hampshire's community of marine trades dealers have done much to make this initiative an on-going success, and through our efforts we're hoping that the initiative will spread to other states as well."

For more information about the *New Hampshire Mercury Reduction Strategy*, please contact Stephanie D'Agostino at (603) 271-6398. To learn more about the Clean Marine Initiative, please call Jacquie Colburn at (603) 271-2959. Information is also available on DES's web site at www.des.state.nh.us. ■

U.S. Senate committee receives input from DES

Administrators testify on brownfields, infrastructure needs, and MtBE

At recent hearings held before the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works, chaired by New Hampshire Senator Bob Smith, DES administrators provided testimony designed to assist federal decision-making on three key environmental topics.

Brownfields Redevelopment

In February, Waste Management Director Philip O'Brien gave DES's support to S.350, the Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act of 2001. O'Brien noted New Hampshire's long-time industrial activity over the past two centuries, with its legacy of former textile and other manufacturing mills, many now abandoned in prime downtown locations. He commented that the redevelopment and reuse of these facilities, "has been hindered by concerns about the liability and costs associated with environmental contamination."

Director O'Brien testified that DES strongly supports the liability clarification provided in the federal bill. Mirroring provisions that already exist in New Hampshire law, the bill's federal liability provisions "will make it simpler and clearer for site owners and prospective purchasers to determine their liability exposure for a site. "We believe this will help to remove a significant barrier to brownfields redevelopment in our state and across the nation."

S.350 also significantly improves the existing brownfields grant programs by going beyond the current federal funding limitations. Rather than providing money to be used only for making grants and for assessments and remedial planning, S.350 extends the federal funding to actual site cleanups. Since the cost of cleaning up and redeveloping brownfields can be significant, the bill's revised funding provisions will help considerably.

O'Brien further commented that New Hampshire has a very active brownfields program that began in 1996 with the passage of the state's brownfields liability legislation and which has been helped by federal (USEPA) grant money. O'Brien discussed several sites and their successes. He also expressed New Hampshire's endorsement of S.350's provisions that place a priority on making grants for sites that will be developed as public parks, greenways, and other nonprofit purposes, noting that such goals are a part of at least six sites in New Hampshire. [Note: For O'Brien's full testimony, see "What's New?" at www.des.nh.state.us.]

Subsequent to the hearing on S.350, the bill passed the full Senate 99-0 in late April, and it is now before the U.S. House of Representatives.

Infrastructure Needs

In March, Harry Stewart, DES's Water Division Director, also provided testimony before the same U.S. Senate Committee, presenting the State of New Hampshire's views "on the continuing significant need for federal support for water supply and wastewater infrastructure funding."

With assurances that New Hampshire, as elsewhere in the nation, "has made great progress over the last thirty years in improving the quality of our surface water, groundwater, and drinking water supplies," major challenges still exist. These "will require state and federal funding to upgrade and improve our core infrastructure and improve water quality."

Stewart cited the aging infrastructure of "our 85 publicly-owned wastewater treatment plants that were constructed or upgraded over 20 years ago during the 'federal construction grants' era." The end of the useful life of original equipment is being approached, and substantial new investment will be required within the next ten years. Also, water and wastewater piping systems are deteriorating in some systems.

Stewart noted that increasingly more stringent permit limits for treatment facilities, including requirements to correct combined sewer overflows (CSOs), as well as requirements for such naturally occurring drinking water contaminants as radon and arsenic, create funding hardships on local communities.

Specifically, Stewart said that New Hampshire has identified approximately \$750 million in wastewater infrastructure needs and \$500 million in water supply needs, spread out over a period of ten to twenty years.

He recommended that "the existing State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program be maintained as the cornerstone of these (additional funding) programs, augmented by grants or loan discounts for communities with high water and sewer rates relative to income levels." This is particularly crucial for communities that are, in a short time frame, confronted with the expense of major upgrades to their infrastructure."

MtBE

Most recently, Commissioner Robert Varney testified at a field hearing held by the senate committee in Salem, New Hampshire. Senator Smith and his committee were seeking input that would be helpful in drafting legislation to deal with the problem of MtBE, methyl tertiary-butyl ether.

As the commissioner pointed out, MtBE was introduced as an additive in gasoline in the 1970s to help replace lead.

He said that in 1995 the addition of MtBE and other ethers was dramatically increased due to reformulated gasoline (RFG) requirements in the federal Clean Air Act (CAA). Because of its high oxygen content and low evaporation characteristics, MtBE was chosen by most refineries to meet the federal oxygenate requirement for RFG mandated by CAA. The Act, noted Varney, requires the use of RFG in certain ozone nonattainment areas, like New Hampshire's four southeastern counties.

Due to periodic spills and leaks, gasoline constituents, including the highly soluble MtBE, have entered a number of private and public water supplies. Varney provided the Committee with a variety of data illustrating the extent of the MtBE problem. He explained that though there is no federal health standard for MtBE, New Hampshire adopted a health standard in 1990 that in 1999 was lowered to 13 ppb, the strictest in the nation.

While noting that MtBE contamination has had an impact on a significant number of private residential wells, the State of New Hampshire has taken aggressive actions to address MtBE contamination. Varney commented that this has included having all drinking water laboratories test for MtBE along with other possible contaminants, conducting an underground storage tank (UST) program that replaced over 13,000 old tanks with 4,600 new leak-resistant tanks, creating a "Clean Marine Engine Initiative," and other prevention and remediation actions. DES has also installed water treatment systems that are helping a number of private well owners. Further, DES is funding the cleanup of existing contaminated sites.

Varney explained the constraints on New Hampshire's ability to eliminate MtBE. "The Clean Air Act prohibits states in almost all instances from controlling individual components of gasoline and expressly mandates the oxygen content of RFG, leaving states with practically no authority to ... reduce MtBE levels in gasoline." Further, he explained, that "the only currently possible alternative to MtBE ... ethanol, is not considered to be a workable substitute for states in the Northeast.

"The only rational and legal action to reduce MtBE," said Varney, "is to opt-out of the federal program. This would eliminate the oxygenate mandate." Under a recent executive order by Governor Shaheen (see article on page 1), DES is seeking just that, though current federal regulations don't allow for an opt-out effective date until January 1, 2004. Since states have few options to address MtBE in light of federal law, "the Clean Air Act needs to be revised to eliminate the oxygenate mandate," recommended Varney. "We must pursue a pollution prevention approach that reduces, and ultimately eliminates, the use of MtBE as a gasoline additive." ■

Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards goes to three companies

Several companies from across New Hampshire received the Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention at the Ninth Annual N.H. Pollution Prevention Conference held recently in Durham.

This year's awards went to Loctite Corporation of Seabrook, Millipore Corporation of Jaffrey, and Pitco Frialator of Bow. Selected from seventeen applications submitted this year for this prestigious award, the applicants' pollution prevention efforts saved more than a million dollars combined.

Loctite Corporation, formally Dexter Polymer Systems, manufactures adhesives and mold release compounds. The Seabrook site is currently participating in EPA's Achievement Track Program, as well as working on ISO 14001 certification. Some of their projects implemented to date include eliminating ozone-depleting chemicals, eliminating solvents-based parts washing, recycling cardboard and shredded paper, and using environmentally-friendly cleaning agents.

Millipore Corporation manufactures filtration devices, such as membrane filters, for the high technology market. They were recognized for reducing methylene chloride usage, reducing halo-carbon gas usage, reducing water use, reducing electrical energy usage, and recycling. Millipore Corporation published its first Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) policy in 1985. The HSE performance for all of the Millipore sites worldwide is published every year and is summarized in the company annual report. The Millipore Jaffrey facility has a site-specific HSE policy that is available to the public and is structured according to the ISO 14001 standard. Millipore (Jaffrey) is certified to the ISO 14001 standard with the Health and Safety program included in the overall management system organization and operation.

Pitco Frialator of Bow is a manufacturer of commercial frying and cooking equipment. This year they have worked to reduce volatile organic compounds from all of their paint booths, reduce toxic air emissions, and reduce raw material costs. Encouraged by the overall success of their program, Pitco is now evaluating additional process changes to further reduce generation and emissions of potential pollutants. Pitco has also been working on other pollution prevention programs, including reducing cooking oil, eliminating hazardous waste from parts cleaning operations, and recycling mercury-containing bulbs, paper, and cardboard.

Other businesses and organizations that received an honorable mention for their pollution prevention efforts were Boyce Highlands of Concord and Moore North America of Manchester. ■

State continues its progress in reducing toxic pollutants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently released its Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Report for 1999. It demonstrated that New Hampshire industries continue to show significant progress in reducing toxic releases to the environment.

The reporting of data to TRI is required under the federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act passed in 1986. The TRI provides the amount, location and type of releases to the environment (air, water, and land) for a variety of toxic chemicals used by industry. Beginning in 1988, manufacturers were required to send information on environmental releases of toxic pollutants to TRI. Changes made to the program last year required electric generating utilities to also report chemical releases. According to figures released by EPA, New Hampshire manufacturing facilities have reduced toxic releases by 83 percent since 1988. The national average for the same time period shows only a 46 percent decline. Electric generating utilities also showed significant reductions in toxic releases since they began reporting to TRI in 1998.

DES Commissioner Bob Varney stated, "New Hampshire's continued progress in reducing toxic releases during this period of strong economic growth reflects considerable efforts and pollution prevention initiatives by our state's industries."

The new report for 1999 also shows significant improvements by industries in materials recycling and energy recovery, further demonstrating that New Hampshire businesses are continuing to look carefully at their use of toxic materials and are striving to implement solutions that include toxics use reduction and pollution prevention. ■

2,000th solid waste operator trained and certified by DES

Philip J. O'Brien, Director of DES's Waste Management Division, (right) and Patricia Hannon, DES Program Coordinator, (left) flank Frederick Wallace, the 2,000th



person trained and certified by DES under the Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification Program. Since 1990, the program has conducted training in the proper management of municipal solid waste management facilities and issued State certifications to those who have successfully completed the course of study. To commemorate the distinction of being the 2000th person to become a certified solid waste operator, Mr. Wallace, an employee of the Town of Salem, was feted by receiving several items. Besides DES, the following New Hampshire associations and companies contributed to this honor: Northeast Resource Recovery Association, Stonyfield Farm Yogurt of Londonderry, and The Timberland Company of Stratham. Mr. Wallace received his certification as a Level IV Operator/Manager on March 15. ■



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